spirit matchday

official matchday program

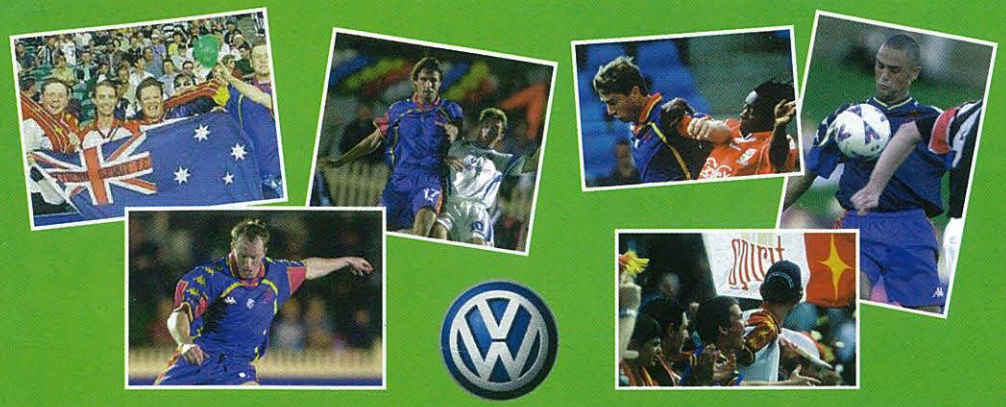
inside:
simon catanzaro profile

spirit v south melbourne

friday january 19
kick-off 7.30pm

$2.00

A LEAGUE OF OUR OWN!



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In your latest issue of Spirit Matchday:

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NEXT HOME GAME: Round 16

26/1/01 NORTHERN SPIRIT vs Sydney United

5.00pm North Sydney Oval

club captain's column

Tonight we welcome South Melbourne to North Sydney Oval in a match that has always been a keenly contested and hard fought fixture on the NSL calendar.

This game will be no different!

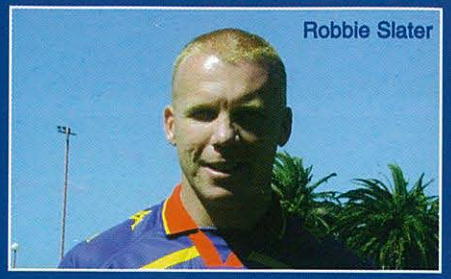
Tonight's match is crunch time for Northern Spirit and we need to collect all three points to arrest a worrying slump that has seen us lose back-to-back games against Parramatta Power and Canberra Cosmos.

Last weekend we missed out on playing an NSL match due to Wollongong's involvement in the Oceania qualifiers for the World Club Championships and that was both good and bad for Northern Spirit.

It was good to have a week off because Arnie ran the squad very hard for the week after our loss to Canberra. It wasn't just punishment it was a concerted effort to improve the fitness of the squad because we have been lacking in that department.

On the other hand we did not have the chance to pick up points and we have now gone three weeks without adding to our tally of 19 competition points.

Northern Spirit has slipped out of the top six and if we cannot pick up maximum points against South Melbourne we will obviously slip further away.


Robbie Slater

Every season there is a defining game when you know that a result either way can be a pointer to the rest of the season and that match is tonight.

In saying that, our most important match of the season comes when we entertain the NSL competition leaders and favourites for the title, South Melbourne.

South Melbourne has rediscovered its killer instinct this season after missing the playoffs last year and there is an air of invincibility about the way they are clinically disposing of their opposition.

But, tonight they come up against a Northern Spirit side with our backs to the wall and the Spirit players will be fighting for every inch of territory as we badly need three points to stop the run of defeats and climb back towards the top six.

Let's hope we can all celebrate a Northern Spirit victory before next Friday night's clash with Sydney United at North Sydney Oval.

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profile simon catanzaro

Simon Catanzaro is not being disrespectful when he says probably the biggest award he has received in football 'means nothing'.

The National Youth League Player of the Year award Catanzaro picked up in 1999 (incidentally one that today's visiting skipper Paul Trimboli picked up way back in 1986) is the highest honour a player can achieve in the National Youth league, but Catanzaro explains more.

"It was a great honour to receive the award," he says, " but really it means nothing if I don't go on with it and be successful."

Catanzaro received the award after the second of his two years at the NSWIS, where like so many players he came under the watchful eye of Head Coach Kelly Cross.

"Kelly was great, he really helped me out a lot. I had a weight problem when I was younger but Kelly showed me what to do, and he really helped me work on my speed. They give you the right advice there, and it has helped me a lot."

After spending the previous eight years (from age 8 through to 16) at Marconi, Catanzaro wasn't short of offers when he left the Institute.

Indeed, there were offers from overseas, but the prospect of working with Northern Spirit Head of Youth Development Ian Crook meant Catanzaro turned to Northern Spirit.

A 'nervous' debut coincidentally against today's opponents South Melbourne followed ("We were 2-0 down and I came on for the last 20 minutes or so") and he added another 16 NSL appearances last season.

At the start of this season Catanzaro said his first aim was to score a goal - after 17 appearances without one - and then secure a regular first team spot. Aim number one was reached in his only NSL appearance so far, away at Adelaide, but aim two has proved far harder.

"I guess I am disappointed at not playing in he first team, although there would be something wrong if I wasn't," said Catanzaro. "I have only played one game, and thought I took my chance well, but as yet it hasn't happened for me."

When Spirit Matchday spoke to the attacking midfielder, Catanzaro was in camp with the LG Young Socceroos in Canberra.

Simon Catanzaro

"The camp is going well. Its pretty strenuous, but I feel like I have been waiting for two years for this opportunity to come up, so you expect it to be."

A day in camp under coach Ange Postecoglou consists of a 7:30am wake-up call, breakfast at 8am, training from 10:00am until 12:00pm, lunch at 12:30pm and then another training session in the afternoon.

"We then go to dinner and get the rest of the evening off, but to be honest we just usually crash out!" said Catanzaro.

The Rangers youth team tour has already had a big impact on Catanzaro, both from playing against them and getting the chance to play with the LG Young Socceroos.

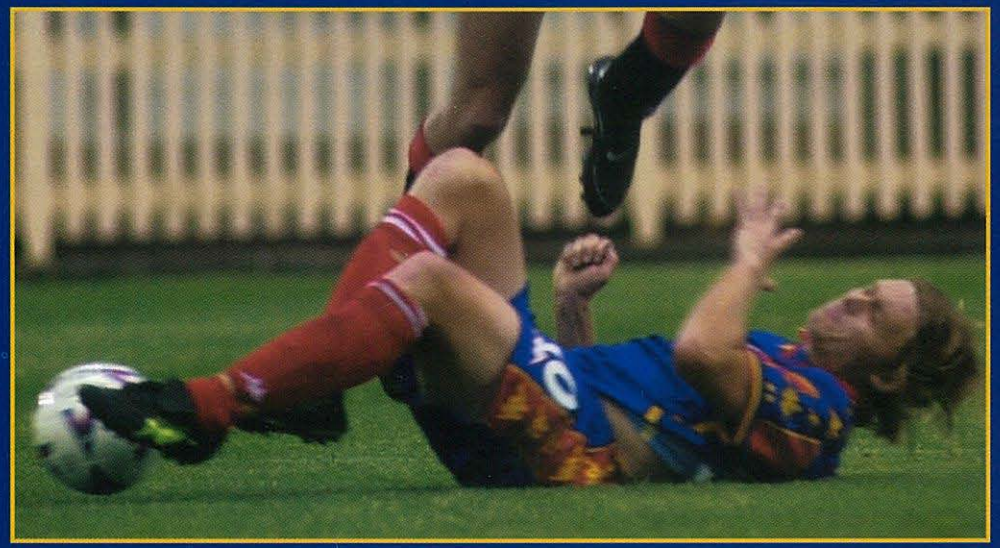
"You look around in camp here, and most of the boys are from overseas clubs. You notice their attitudes are different - they are much more focused and definitely have that mental edge.

"It's the same with the Rangers youth team - apart from the fact they play the game at a much quicker pace than us, the main difference is you can tell from their attitudes that they really want to make it...as if they just have to give it everything and not fail. That's what has really hit me over the past week or so."

As for the future for Catanzaro, well he says that like most players he would like to play overseas, but...

"It has to be at the right time...and for the right club."

Hopefully before then he will achieve his second aim for the season with Northern Spirit and grab a regular first-team spot - and prove that his youth league award does mean something.



TODAY'S SQUADS

1	John Perosh
2	Michael Cunico
3	Matthew Langdon
4	Matthew Bingley
6	Scott Thomas
7	Robbie Slater
8	Robbie Enes
9	Alex Moreira
10	Gabriel Mendez
11	Troy Cranney
12	Ben Burgess
13	Phil Moss
14	Noel Spencer
15	Tony Perinich
16	Simon Catanzaro
17	Paul Bilokapic
18	Daniel Watkins
19	Ryan Griffiths
20	Paul Henderson
21	Adam Griffiths
22	Jacek Sobczyk
23	Adam Snyder
24	Tony Faria
26	Joseph Schirripa
28	Ian Crook
29	Todd Macrae
30	Graham Arnold

COACH: Graham Arnold

Michael Petkovic	1
Steve Iosifidis	2
Fausto De Amicis	3
Mehmet Durakovic	4
Robert Liparoti	5
David Clarkson	6
Steve Panopoulos	7
Vaughan Coveny	8
Paul Trimboli	9
Con Boutsianis	10
John Anastasiadis	11
Richie Alagich	12
Andy Vlahos	13
Vas Kalogerakos	14
Goran Lozanovski	15
Zeljko Susa	16
Rade Culibrk	17
Elias Demourtzidis	18
Patrick Kinsorbo	19
Chris Jones	20
Massimo Murdocca	21
Steve Esposito	22
Michael Theoklito	23
Nick Tolios	24
Simon Colosimo	25

COACH: Mike Petersen

opposition lowdown

We welcome South Melbourne to North Sydney Oval tonight for what is sure to be a keenly fought contest.

South are four points clear at the top of the table, and last weekend's 3-0 victory over the Kingz equals the club's record of five successive clean-sheets, and also stretches it's unbeaten run of matches to 12.

Despite those impressive statistics it hasn't stopped coach Mike Petersen, in his first season in charge, adding to his already impressive squad by signing former Carlton star Simon Colosimo.

In goal Petersen has Michael Petkovic, who has already clocked up over 100 appearances for South, while Michael Theoklitas is currently his understudy.

Despite central defender Robert Liparoti unfortunately ruled for the season with a knee injury, Petersen is still spoilt for choice in defence, even though Goran Lozanovski missed last week's win as he was trailing in China.

Steve Iosifidis has been a consistent performer for some time now, and indeed came close to joining the Perth Glory at the start of the season, while Fausto De Amicis is a skillful left back who already has 4 NSL Championships to his name.

The experienced Mehmet Durakovic is one of the best defenders in the NSL, while Liparoti's absence has meant 19 year-old Patrick Kisnorbo has come into the reckoning, starting last week on the bench.

Dave Clarkson has been the driving force from midfield for South Melbourne for a few years, although along with a number of players he will be watching over his shoulder now the versatile Colosimo is at the club.

Steve Panopoulos is a skilful midfielder who is another to have played all his NSL games with the one club, while skipper Paul Trimboli needs no introduction.

Trimboli is quite simply one of the best players ever to play in the NSL, and has made a club record number of appearances for South Melbourne. His long list of honours include 2 time NSL Player of the Year (92/93, 97/98) and 6 time South Melbourne Player of the Year, and the captain remains a vital part of the team.

Zeljko Susa moved across town from the Melbourne Knights to sign for South Melbourne, increasing competition for places in midfield, but Petersen has an equal wealth of talent at his disposal in attack.

Last week's win was achieved without the skilful Con Boutsianis, who was suspended following his dismissal against Eastern Pride the week before, while Vaughan Coveny has been a regular starter for the club since joining from the Melbourne Knights. He netted one of the goals against the Kingz last Sunday.

Another goalscorer was Vas Kalogeracos, back from a spell in the UK, while Andy Vlahos is in his second season with the club.

John Anastasiadis made a late appearance last week - the experienced striker has made a habit of scoring vital goals after coming off the bench, and he spent 9 years in Greece playing for PAOK Salonica.

fan's view

with Rebecca Carey and Mark Fowler

Two reminders about our Australia Day home game next Friday (26th January) against Sydney United.

Firstly, kick off for first grade is at the earlier time of 5:00pm, so make sure you make a note in your diaries!

Secondly, there is a 'Best Dressed Aussie' competition at half-time, keeping in with the spirit of Australia Day, so come dressed as a stereotypical Aussie and be in with a chance to win great prizes!

Our judges will wander through the crowd and pick the 6 best-dressed Aussies for a half-time competition, so just think stubbies, thongs and singlets and you shouldn't go far wrong!

Spirit Matchday received the following correspondence from Robert McGill, for which we thank him.

'Contrary to popular belief the Northern Spirit are not the first premiership side to use North Sydney Oval as a home ground. In 1960 a team called North Shore - EPT (an amalgamation of the north shore club and the Electrical Power Transmissions club) played at North Sydney Oval.

The following year the marriage was dissolved and North Shore Amalgamated with Polonia to become known as Polonia - North Side. In 1960 North Shore - EPT third grade side not only won the competition but also the grand final against Canterbury 2-1. In goal for Canterbury was Ron Corry (later to represent Australia) who is now of course coach of Wollongong Wolves.

I have still kept a programme from 1960. The football team Prague lost only one game that year, but in one of the previous years they went through the season undefeated, to be the only team to do so I believe.

In the second division that year (1960) the winners were Pan Hellenic, later to become Sydney Olympic. The winners in the third division were Croatia.'

Robert McGill

Another reminder too that this page is for YOU, so please send anything in you wish to have included. If you have pictures of you wearing your shirts in unusual places send them too - either email to nsfc98@yahoo.com or MarkFowler@bigpond.com, or see one of the committee.

Northern Spirit Supporters club contact details:

Infoline (02) 8250 4004
Email: nsfc98@yahoo.com
Website: www.spiritfans.com.au

match report

with Mark Fowler

Northern Spirit 0 v Canberra Cosmos 2
North Sydney Oval, Friday January 5
Crowd 4,688

Northern Spirit suffered their first home defeat of the season in a disappointing 2-0 loss to the Canberra Cosmos.

With the Cosmos struggling for points and speculation about their future rife, it was a game Spirit would have fancied their chances of getting another three points and keeping their place in the top six. It was not to be.

The first goal of the game is always important, and although Canberra goalkeeper Angelo Konstantinou foiled both Alex Moreira and Matthew Langdon in the first 18 minutes when both could have done better, it didn't seem to matter when Spirit were awarded a penalty.

With two successful spot-kicks under his belt this season, returning skipper Chi Chi Mendez would have been odds on to make it 1-0 - only to see Konstantinou easily push his effort away from goal.

Six minutes later ex-NSW state league player Jon Angelucci scored with Canberra's first real effort. He drifted across the edge of the penalty area, before moving onto his right-foot to tuck the ball past Paul Henderson for his sixth goal of the season.

With Scott Thomas, Robbie Slater and Troy Cranney out either injured or suspended Graham Arnold handed an NSL debut to 18-year old Todd Macrae on the right-hand side of the field, although an early injury to Langdon soon saw him switch to the left-hand side.

Spirit struggled in the first 20 minutes of the second period to create anything, with Ben Burgess and Moreira being closely marked, but when Matthew Bingley was pushed further forward they looked far more dangerous.

On 65 minutes he knocked the ball through to substitute Ryan Griffiths, but his effort was easily saved, and then he had an effort himself from 30 metres out that was well tipped over the bar by Konstantinou.

Another substitute, Paul Bilokapic, tested Konstantinou twice from distance, while the overworked Cosmos goalkeeper also foiled Moreira.

With time almost up and Spirit pushing forward, Andrew Ravenello pushed the ball through to Mark Hagger, and he finished expertly to give the visitors a 2-0 win.

Northern Spirit: Henderson, Cunico, Bingley, Arnold, Macrae (R. Griffiths) Foster, Mendez (Bilokapic) Spencer, Langdon (Enes) Burgess, Moreira.

Cautions: Burgess 40', Enes 63', R. Griffiths 84', Moreira 88'

Chi Chi Mendez

Rangers Tour

The Rangers Youth Team has had a mixed bag so far in their three games (their second game against the LG Young Socceroos was played after we went to print).

They got off to a winning start, defeating the Northern Spirit Youth Team 2-0 at North Sydney Oval before Northern Spirit's NSL game with the Canberra Cosmos.

Goals to Steven Dobbie and Paul McHale in each half gave the Rangers boys a well-deserved 2-0 win. Rangers had already looked dangerous and it was no surprise when Dobbie opened the scoring in the 24th minute.

Northern Spirit fought their way back into the game before half time, but after the break

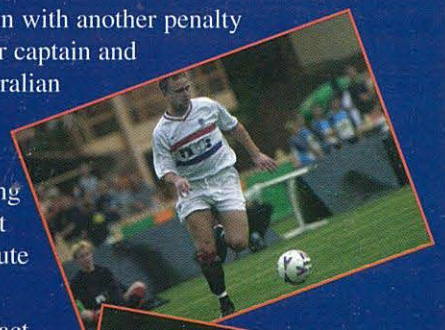
The Northern Spirit Youth team & the Rangers Youth team after their Jan 5 match at North Sydney Oval

Rangers buried any hopes of a revival with a second goal 10 minutes from time through McHale.

In their second match, the LG Young Socceroos proved too strong for the Rangers Youth team, beating their Scottish opponents 3-0 at the AIS in Canberra.

After a quiet first half the Australian Under-20s came out more positively in the second half, and were rewarded in the 52nd minute, Michael Ferrante converting a penalty after striker Joshua Kennedy was brought down in the box.

13 minutes later, Ferrante was on the spot again with another penalty conversion, putting the Australians up 2-0 after captain and defender Ljubo Milicevic was the second Australian brought down in the penalty area.



The Australian attack continued, with Nick Carle finishing the scoring off for the LG Young Socceroos, latching onto a Ferrante pass to slot the ball into the back of the net in the last minute of play, for a 3-0 win.

Making the result worse for Rangers was the fact that the impressive Lee Feeney broke his arm, and was replaced in the 44th minute.

In their third game Northern Spirit used the opportunity to make use of their free weekend, because of Wollongong's participation in the OFC Club Championships, and they played the Rangers side in a friendly.

Unfortunately for Spirit they went down 4-1, Noel Spencer grabbing Spirit's goal.

In their fourth game Rangers took on an LG Young Socceroos side without Mark Byrnes, who has left for trials overseas, while in the game tonight before our clash with South Melbourne the Rangers Youth team will face a NSW Select Under 20 side coached by Blacktown's Brian Brown. He named the following squad last week, which at the time of going to print was subject to change: Patrick Gatt, Adam Kwasnik, James Wilkinson, Steve Baveas (all Blacktown City Demons) Dane Hokin, Peter Leary, Mitch Daley (all Central Coast Coasties) Tim O'Connell, Luke Boyd (Penrith Panthers) Mark Guerreiro, Mark Bariamis (St George Saints) Andrew Falas (Leichhardt Tigers) Ben Delicata, Daniel Borg (Parramatta Eagles) and Todd McCrea, Michael Prentice (Northern Spirit)

Results so far:

Jan 5 Northern Spirit youth 0 v 2 Rangers Youth North Sydney Oval 5.30pm
Jan 9 LG Young Socceroos 3 v 0 Rangers Youth AIS Field, Canberra 7.00pm
Jan 13 Northern Spirit 1 v 4 Rangers Youth North Sydney Oval 5.00pm
Jan 16 LG Young Socceroos v Rangers Youth North Sydney Oval 6.00pm
Jan 19 NSW U20s v Rangers Youth North Sydney Oval 5.05pm

spirit round-up

R14 results

12.01.01	Parramatta Power	2 - 3	Perth Glory
12.01.01	Newcastle United	0 - 1	Sydney Olympic
13.01.01	Canberra Cosmos	1 - 1	Adelaide City Force
14.01.01	Sydney United	1 - 0	Eastern Pride
14.01.01	Melbourne Knights	1 - 4	Marconi Stallions
14.01.01	South Melbourne	3 - 0	Kingz FC

Wollongong Wolves v NORTHERN SPIRIT (TBA Rescheduled)

Brisbane Strikers (BYE)

R15 draw

Fri 19-01-01	**NORTHERN SPIRIT vs South Melbourne**	**7:30pm**	**North Sydney Oval**
Fri 19-01-01	Newcastle United vs Melbourne Knights	7.30pm	Marathon Stadium
Fri 19-01-01	Kingz FC vs Sydney United	7:30pm	Westpac Trust Stadium, Wellington
Sat 20-01-01	Perth Glory vs Canberra Cosmos	7:00pm	Perth Oval
Sat 20-01-01	Eastern Pride vs Sydney Olympic	7:00pm	Mobil Park
Sat 25-03-01	Adelaide City Force vs Wollongong Wolves	8:00pm	Hindmarsh Stadium **

BYE - Canberra Cosmos

**re-arranged date as Wollongong are competing in the OFC Club Championships

2000/01 Competition ladder

POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	Bye	GF	GA	PT	POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	Bye	GF	GA	PT
1	South Melbourne	14	8	4	1	1	29	8	31	9	Sydney United	14	4	4	5	1	19	23	19
2	Perth Glory	14	7	3	3	1	32	15	27	10	Canberra Cosmos	14	4	3	6	1	24	23	18
3	Wollongong Wolves	13	7	3	2	1	27	16	27	11	Melbourne Knights	14	4	3	6	1	22	24	18
4	Sydney Olympic	14	7	3	3	1	23	13	27	12	Kingz FC	14	3	3	7	1	20	25	15
5	Marconi Stallions	14	5	5	3	1	21	13	23	13	Brisbane Strikers	14	3	4	6	1	21	27	13
6	Adelaide City Force	14	6	2	5	1	24	25	23	14	Newcastle United	14	1	6	6	1	12	23	12
7	Parramatta Power	14	7	1	6	2	2	19	22	15	Eastern Pride	14	1	4	8	1	18	24	10
8	**NORTHERN SPIRIT**	**13**	**4**	**4**	**4**	**1**	**16**	**13**	**19**										

*For all matches which Carlton played, or were scheduled to play, three competition points will be awarded to their opponents with a 3-0 score.

Northern Spirit 2000/2001 National League Fixtures and results

Rnd	Date	Versus	H/A	Time/Score
1	15th Oct	Sydney United	A	1-2
2	20th Oct	Sydney Olympic	H	0-0
3	28th Oct	Eastern Pride	A	2-0
4	3rd Nov	Kingz FC	H	4-2
5	11th Nov	Newcastle Breakers	H	0-0
6	17th Nov	Adelaide City Force	A	2-3
7	24th Nov	Perth Glory	H	2-0
8	3rd Dec	Carlton	A	3-0*
9	8th Dec	Marconi Stallions	H	0-0
10	17th Dec	Melbourne Knights	A	1-1
11	22nd Dec	Brisbane Strikers	H	1-0
12	29th Dec	Parramatta Power	A	0-3
13	5th Jan	Canberra Cosmos	H	0-2
14	TBA	Wollongong Wolves	A	TBA
15	19th Jan	South Melbourne	H	7:30pm
16	26th Jan	Sydney United	H	5:00pm
17	4th Feb	Sydney Olympic	A	6:30pm
18	9th Feb	Eastern Pride	H	7.30pm
19	16th Feb	Kingz FC	A	7.30pm
20	23rd Feb	Newcastle Breakers	A	7.30pm
21	2nd Mar	Adelaide City Force	H	7.30pm
22	10th Mar	Perth Glory	A	7.00pm
23	16th Mar	BYE		
24	24th Mar	Marconi Stallions	A	7.00pm
25	30th Mar	Melbourne Knights	H	7.30pm
26	8th Apr	Brisbane Strikers	A	6:00pm
27	13th Apr	Parramatta Power	H	7.30pm
28	21st Apr	Canberra Cosmos	A	6:30pm
29	25th Apr	Wollongong Wolves	H	3.00pm
30	29th Apr	South Melbourne	A	3.00pm

*final score was 1-1, but now stands as a 3-0 victory.

player profile

Spirit Matchday finds out from injured star Matty Langdon, who is hoping to be back in action in a couple of weeks time, just what his favourite things are:

Matthew Langdon

Nickname:	Langers
Height:	166cm
Weight:	70kg
Date of Birth:	2.5.80
Place of Birth:	Fairfield
Signed from:	Wollongong
Previous Clubs:	A.I.S., N.S.W.I.S.
Position:	Left Wing/Back
Squad Number:	3

Favourite meal:
Pasta.

Favourite pre-match meal:
Chicken and lettuce sandwiches.

Favourite drink:
Water.

Favourite music:
Anything.

Who will win this year's comp (excluding Northern Spirit):
South Melbourne.

Favourite player in your position:
Roberto Carlos.

Favourite player in the world:
David Ginola.

Favourite other sports star:
Tiger Woods.

KIDS CLUB

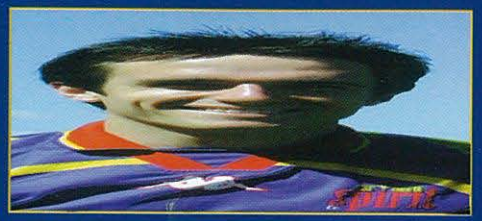
QUICK QUIZ !!!

See how you go with these quick questions - see if you can get all three right and score a hat-trick!

1 Northern Spirit has defeated South Melbourne once in our four meetings so far - a 1-0 win back in March 1999 - but who scored Spirit's goal that day?

2 Which other NSL club has Paul Trimboli played for (clue - they are no longer in the league)?

3 Who are these Spirit players?



LINK THE NAMES

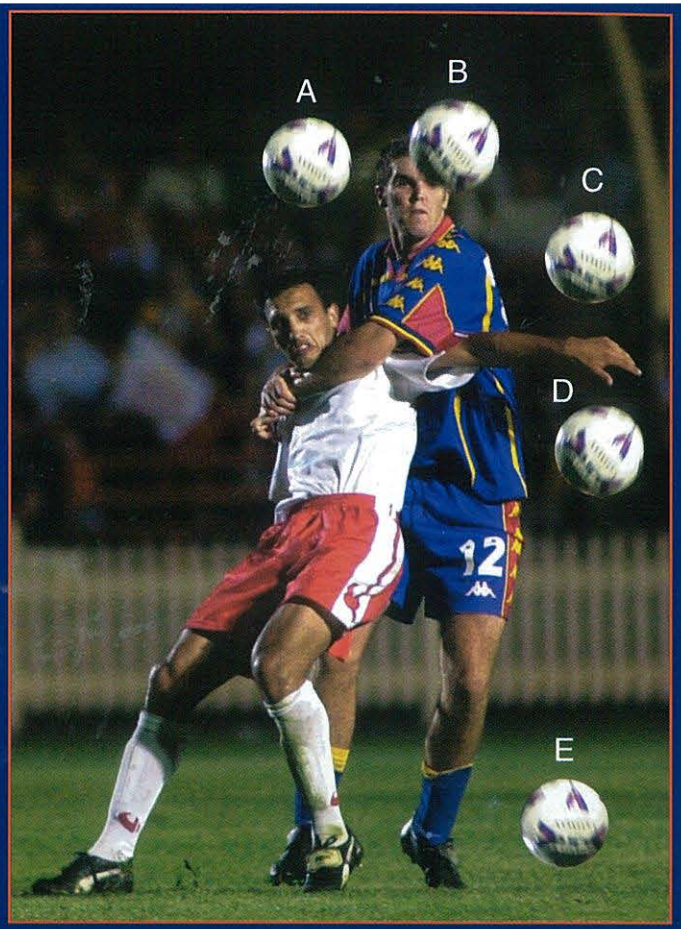
On the left-hand side of the page are the names of eight Australian footballers - and on the left their nicknames. Can you match which name belongs with which nickname?

1 Mark Viduka	a Trimmers
2 Marcus Stergiopoulos	b Chi Chi
3 Ian Crook	c Big Ben
4 Paul Trimboli	d V-Bomber
5 Brad Maloney	e Billy
6 Ben Burgess	f Chippy
7 Paul Bilokapic	g Bugsy
8 Gabriel Mendez	h Stergiboy

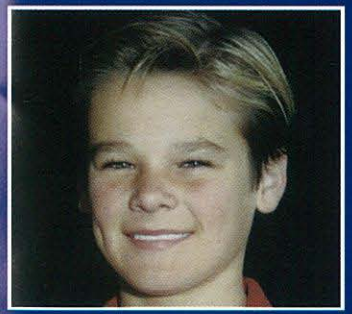
Answers: Quick Quiz - 1. Kresimir Maruscic 2. Sunshine 3. Michael Cunico and Paul Henderson Link the names - 1d, 2h, 3f, 4a, 5g, 6c, 7e, 8b.

SPOT THE BALL

Which one of the five footballs is the real one?



Meet the Mascot



Congratulations to tonight's lucky OYSC winner who will be running out with the team.

Name: Luke Reading
Age: 12
From: Dural
Favourite Player: Paul Bilokapic

Spot the ball answer: ball B

latest news & views

With Damien Mori scoring his 10th goal of the season against Parramatta Power last Friday night, it means the Perth Glory star has now netted an incredible 158 NSL goals.

The striker, who only turns 31 this year, has a good few years left yet, and could well take his overall NSL goal-scoring record to a figure that will take some beating.

The top five all-time NSL goalscorers are:

Damian Mori (Perth Glory) 158

Rod Brown (retired) 137

John Kosmina (retired) 133

Francis Awaritefe (Sydney United) 120

Marshall Soper (retired) 119

Of the Northern Spirit players, neither Graham Arnold (72 NSL goals) nor Robbie Slater (57 NSL goals) have added to their tallies this season.

A reminder too that the official accommodation supplier of Northern Spirit - Rydges North Sydney, is still offering Spirit supporters a special accommodation package. Spirit fans can make matchdays a special night out and stay at Rydges North Sydney for only $100.00 per night from Friday - Sunday (includes breakfast for two). A special weekday rate (Mon - Thurs) of $168.00 is also available to Spirit fans. To book phone 1800 226 466.)

Printing deadlines for the last issue of Spirit Matchday meant that the news that Soccer Australia had received applications from three new teams for the 2001/2002 NSL season (Brisbane Lions - Queensland, Fremantle City - Western Australia, Western Lightening Soccer Club - Western Australia) was slightly out-dated.

Since then an application from the South Coast Eagles Soccer Club has been accepted, although Soccer Australia General Manager Mr Stefan Kamasz says, "It needs to be pointed out, though, that the four new applicants will not be considered unless there is a vacancy in the restructured 2001/2002 competition, that is, if we cannot achieve 12 teams from the existing clubs."

We are pleased to announce our lucky winner of the Northern Spirit 'Train with the Team competition'.

Joshua Conduit of Copacabana NSW.

Joshua and his team mates will now have the opportunity to train with the Northern Spirit 1st team.

Congratulations Joshua !!

A long overdue part of our game has been some sort of recognition for past achievements, which Soccer Australia identified by introducing the Hall of Fame in 1999.

The first Hall of Fame had some wonderful moments, and this year Soccer Australia is asking for nominations to the 2001 Hall Of Fame.

Their release states:

"Nominees must have contributed to the code on a national level, either on the field (player) or off the field (official, coach, referee or media).
Players have to be retired at least three (3) years before being eligible for nomination but non-players can be nominated at any time."

Closing date for nominations is February 16th 2001 and application forms can be obtained from Northern Spirit Football Club or at Soccer Australia.

For great gear at bargain prices, Kappa are having a sale at the Leichhardt Town Hall, Norton Street, Leichhardt. The sale runs from Thursday 18 - Sunday 21st January, from 9am - 6pm.

NSL leading goalscorers after round 14:

NAME CLUB TOTAL

Damian MORI Perth Glory 10

Joe MILLER Parramatta Power 9

Archie THOMPSON Carlon/Marconi Stallions 9

Ben BURGESS Northern Spirit 7

Scott CHIPPERFIELD Wollongong Wolves 7

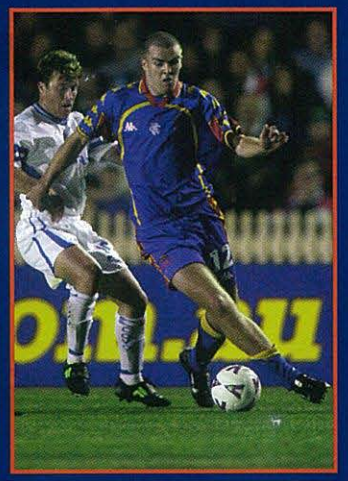
Bobby DESPOTOVSKI Perth Glory 7

Andy VLAHOS South Melbourne 7

Jon ANGELUCCI Canberra Cosmos 6

Paul FOSTER Brisbane Strikers 6

Paul TRIMBOLI South Melbourne 6



Ben Burgess

Northern Spirit is in the process of completely re-building its website to include an exciting range of interactive activities and competitions, designed to provide the best stream of entertainment and information to our fans.

Coming your way soon on www.northernspirit.com.au will be the latest news and views of Spirit players and coaching staff, as well as all the latest information.

upcoming spirit events

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

JANUARY

Friday 26th Jan NSL round 16 game Northern Spirit v Sydney United 5:00pm North Sydney Oval

FEBRUARY

Friday 9th Feb NSW Police Force v NSW Fire Brigade 5:15pm North Sydney Oval

Friday 9th Feb NSL round 18 game Northern Spirit v Eastern Pride 7.30pm North Sydney Oval

MARCH

Friday 2nd March NSL round 21 game Northern Spirit v Adelaide City Force 7.30pm North Sydney Oval

Sunday 18th March Club Spirit members day at North Sydney Oval

Friday 30th March
Final Spirit-Rangers Cup
Manly Warringah Select v
Gladesville-Hornsby Select
North Sydney Oval. Kick-off TBC

Friday 30th March NSL round 25 game Northern Spirit v Melbourne Knights 7.30pm North Sydney Oval

APRIL

Friday 13th Apr NSL round 27 game Northern Spirit v Parramatta Power 7.30pm North Sydney Oval

Wednesday 25th Apr Celebrity soccer match North Sydney Oval

Wednesday 25th April
Official Young Supporters Club Members afternoon at North Sydney Oval

Wednesday 25th Apr NSL round 29 game Northern Spirit v Wollongong Wolves 3.00pm North Sydney Oval

JUNE

June TBA Northern Spirit Presentation Night.

SPIRIT CUP

The weekend of the 27th/28th of January sees something special at Christie Park.

The innaugral Spirit Cup will be held, and features sides representing four associations: the Central Coast, Gladesville-Hornsby, Manly Warringah Association and the Ku-ring-gai Association.

There are two age groups - Under 11's and Under 15's, and the teams will play over two days to see who takes out the Spirit Cup.

Points will be awarded as follows: 3 points for a win, 2 points for a scoring draw, 1 for a goal less draw and 0 for a defeat.

The points will be tallied up and one of the four associations will become the first winner of the Spirit Cup, in what will be an annual event as Northern Spirit continues it's efforts to work with our local associations.

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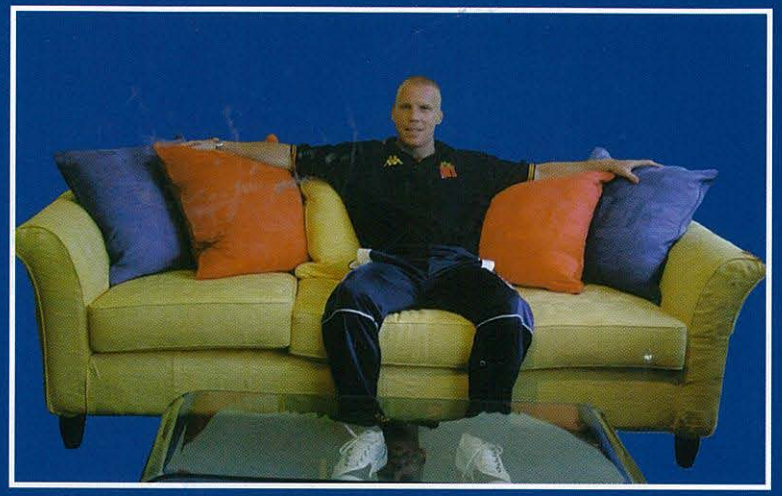

328 High Street Chatswood NSW 2067
Phone: +612 9415 0500 Fax: +612 9415 0505
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national youth league

The Wollongong Wolves' participation in the OFC Club Championship not only meant the postponement of our first team game last weekend, but also the youth match that had been scheduled to take place before it. That means our youth team have only been in league action once since our last issue of Spirit Matchday, going down 2-0 at home to the Canberra Cosmos in round 13.

Despite only sitting in 11th place the Cosmos youth team have a positive goal difference, and they struck on 33 minutes when Paul Ivanic netted his 10th goal of the season.

The Cosmos clinched the game with a goal just three minutes from time by Ryan O'Grady, but the Spirit boys still sit in fourth place and have games in hand on the teams around them. More important though was the inclusion of Simon Catanzaro into the LG Young Socceroo squad to play Rangers youth team, and also the call up to the senior side for Todd Macrae, who made his NSL debut in the senior side's loss to Canberra.

Northern Spirit's Head of Youth Development Ian Crook said after the game, "I thought Todd did well for a debut. They are always nerve-wracking things, but he has been good for us in the youth team, and deserved his chance."

The round 11 game against the QAS has been rescheduled for the 16th March, 2001, while the round 14 game against Wollongong Wolves at WIN Stadium is to be rearranged.

Youth Team results so far:

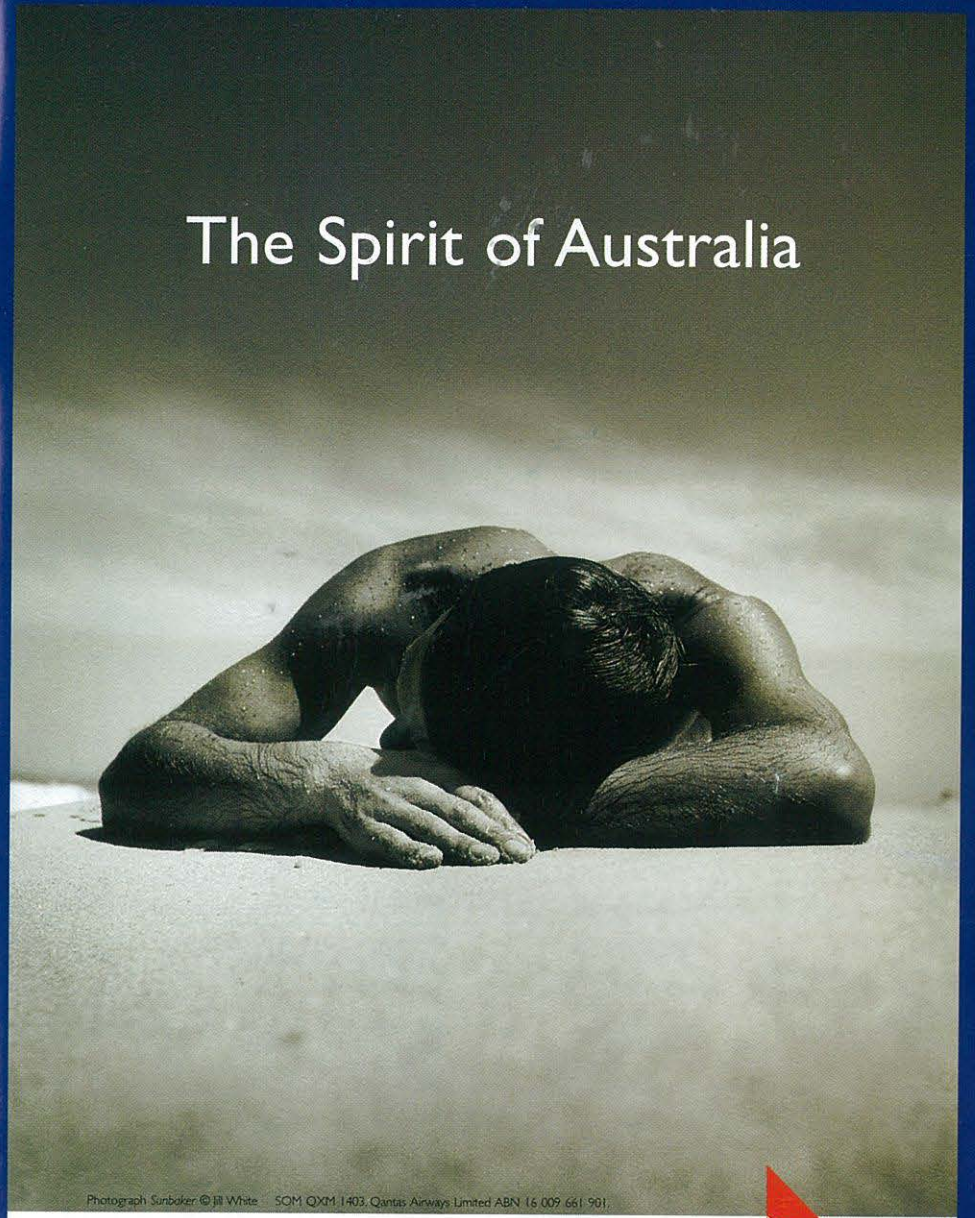
R1 Sydney United 2-3 NORTHERN SPIRIT
R2 NORTHERN SPIRIT 3-2 Sydney Olympic
R3 Newcastle United Colts 0-6 NORTHERN SPIRIT
R4 NORTHERN SPIRIT 2-0 N.S.W.I.S
R5 NORTHERN SPIRIT 2-0 Newcastle United Youth
R6 A.I.S 1-0 NORTHERN SPIRIT
R7 ACT Academy 0-3 NORTHERN SPIRIT
R8 Bye
R9 NORTHERN SPIRIT 1-2 Marconi Stallions Youth
R10 Sydney Olympic Academy 0-0 NORTHERN SPIRIT
R12 Parramatta Power 2-3 NORTHERN SPIRIT
R13 NORTHERN SPIRIT 0-2 Canberra Cosmos

Upcoming games:

R15 Saturday 20th January 4:00pm v Marconi Stallions Colts - Christie Park
R16 Saturday 27th January 4.00 pm v Sydney United Youth - Christie Park
R17 Sunday 4th February 4.00 pm v Sydney Olympic Youth - Belmore Sports Ground

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 2000/2001 NORTHERN DIVISION LEAGUE LADDER

Team	P	W	D	B	L	F	A	Pts	Team	P	W	D	B	L	F	A	Pts
A.I.S.	13	11	1	1	1	33	11	34	Sydney Olympic	12	5	2	1	5	26	26	17
Marconi Stallions	12	9	2	1	1	28	7	29	N.S.W.I.S.	13	5	2	1	6	15	23	17
Parramatta Power	13	8	1	0	4	42	20	25	Canberra Cosmos	13	4	3	1	6	26	25	15
NORTHERN SPIRIT	11	7	1	1	3	23	11	22	Q.A.S.	12	4	1	1	7	20	32	13
Wollongong Wolves	11	6	3	1	2	26	11	21	Syd Olympic Acad	12	1	3	1	8	13	27	6
Sydney United	13	6	1	1	6	25	25	20	ACT Academy	12	1	1	1	10	6	48	4
Newcastle United	12	6	1	1	5	19	13	18	N'castle United Colts	10	1	0	1	9	6	33	3
Marconi Stallions Colts	13	6	0	1	7	28	23	18									



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